



Padre Island National Seashore  
**SandDollar**



**Friday, March 5, 2004**

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Indicates new information



**We made \$480 from the BBQ benefit lunch for Chon.  
Thank you, everyone, for your participation!**

## **Superintendent**

Colin's schedule:

Friday, 3/5

– Trip down island w/Randy L.

## ***Safety Notes--***

*Your contributions are greatly appreciated for the SandDollar and the safety bulletin board. Please send safety contributions to Pat.*

**Let's continue to encourage each other to be safe.**

**Make it a safe day.**

## **Employees Association News**

How about a nice outing to the Majestic Theatre in San Antonio to see NUNSENSE? This play is celebrating 20 years of making the world laugh. It features, Kaye Ballard, Georgia Engle, Mimi Hines, Darlene Love and Lee Meriwether.

This is through Rockport Tours; we travel in an air conditioned bus with a bathroom. We will stop for a "wonderful" dinner after our matinee show. The date is APRIL 10 and it is \$109, all inclusive – transportation, ticket and dinner. It is loads of fun, they even play movies for us. We will make a pit stop on the trip up and back. It is worth it just to see the Majestic Theatre. PLEASE make your own arrangements directly through Rockport tours at 937-3488. Please mention you are with the Padre Island National Seashore group so they can seat us together. Don't wait too long, as these fill up quickly. Website: [www.rockporttours.com](http://www.rockporttours.com).

## **Administration**

Chon will run out of leave/donated leave in pay period 8 which starts March 21. If anyone would like to donate leave, please submit the form to Jeanie. If you cannot locate a form, there will be some available in Jeanie's office.

Job Opening: Park Ranger, Interpreter, GS-025/4 – This position will be filled using the Student Temporary Employment Program. If you know anyone interested in applying for this position, they must be currently enrolled as a half-time student. Detailed resume and copy of college transcript may be faxed or e-mailed to Buzz at the Visitor Center. Contact Buzz for additional information.

Job Opening: Mail and File Clerk GS-305-3 - -This position will be filled using the Student Temporary Employment Program. If you know anyone interested in applying for this position, they must be currently enrolled as a half-time student. Must be able to type 40 words per minute. Applications must be received by March 8. Please contact Jeanie for additional information.

Job Opening: Visitor Use Assistant (fee collector) GS-303-4 - - This position will be filled using the Student Temporary Employment Program. If you know anyone interested in applying for this position, they must be currently enrolled as a half-time student. Applications must be received by March 18. Please contact Jeanie for additional information.

## **TEL Courses**

Description of courses can be found at [www.telnpns.net](http://www.telnpns.net)

Mar 22	Retirement Planning for new employees
Mar 24	Position descriptions - what every supervisor should know
Mar 24	Managing Performance
Mar 25	Managing worker's compensation (2 classes 8-11a.m. or 12-3)
Apr 1	Communication: The Key to Performance Management
Apr 1	From Hugger to Harasser: The True Story behind Sexual Harassment
Apr 19	Retirement Planning for New Employees
Apr 20	IDP Module 210 - Prepare and Present an effective conducted Activity
Apr 26	NPS Recreation & Preservation Programs

**The trailer will be used for TEL training on Mar 22, Mar 24, Mar 25, and Apr 1.**

## **Facility Management**

Coming-up fund raiser events to benefit Chon:

March 19	Raffle. Information to follow
April 2	Cakewalk. Information to follow.

Thanks, folks, for all your consideration and help.

## **Interpretation**

Update on volunteer Mike Smith's Condition:

As of Wednesday, 3/3, Mike is still in ICU but continuing to improve. He has regained consciousness and is talking. He is also walking although he needs the help of a walker.

**On March 13, the park will host the National Parks America clean-up, sponsored by Unilever, Wal-Mart, and the National Parks Foundation. Please note that they are planning for about**

**300 people and therefore we should expect it to be about the same size as the Spring Adopt-a-beach clean-up.**

## **Protection**

Tom Crowson will be on leave for a couple of days as he attempts to get treatment for his back that was injured in an off duty motor vehicle accident.

### Offshore Dispersant Exercise

The USCG will be conducting a dispersant exercise on Tuesday, March 9 as part of a conference they are hosting in Corpus Christi. The exercise will entail a C-130 low altitude fly-by where the aircraft will drop a load of potable water to simulate an actual event where they would drop dispersant in the event of an oil spill. The actual drop will occur outside our park boundary just east of the Malaquite Visitor Center. Approximately 40 conference attendees will view the event from the Malaquite Pavilion.

We do not have an exact time for the fly-by but it should be some time late morning. Time table is a bit open as the C-130 will be flying from Florida to conduct the drop.

### **TEXAS INTERAGENCY WILDFIRE ACADEMY @ LUFKIN, TX**

**DEAD LINE: 03/15/04 for Registration**

Make sure you get the training nomination form to your supervisor and back to Randy Larson by March 15<sup>th</sup>. Also forward a copy of the completed form to Randy Scoggins.

There are deadlines on certain classes. Last year several classes had already been filled when we got our registration in. We have to work with Big Thicket that is the reason for the early deadline. The training schedule can be viewed at the TICC web site [www.tamu.edu/ticc](http://www.tamu.edu/ticc). There is also a copy in the ranger station hallway. If you have any questions call me. Thanks, Randy S.

## **Resources Management**

Projects:

- The Great Blue Heron study will start today, March 5, and continue every Friday through August or September. This is the second year for this project. Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program assists with this project.
- Katie will be sampling the washover basin at the 46-MM on Wednesday, March 17. This project will be twice a month throughout the year. Anyone interested in helping, please contact Katie.
- The mist-netting for neotropical migrants is starting soon. Anyone interested in assisting with banding and observing birds, please contact Darrell or Katie.
- The park has been approved for a SCA position this year. RM will possibly fund a position this year.

## **Division of Sea Turtle Science and Recovery**

CONGRATULATIONS to Cynthia Rubio on being converted from a SCEP appointment to permanent status. Cynthia has been a great asset to the sea turtle project and we are thrilled that she is now a permanent employee.

Cynthia will be out of the office from March 3-5.

Engineers involved in the design of the Sea Turtle Laboratory will be at the park on March 8 through the morning of March 9. Luis and Rey will meet with them on March 8 and Donna will meet with them at 10:00 am on March 9.

Donna will attend the Texas 2020 Conference in Corpus Christi on March 11-12.

Training of volunteers that will participate in our turtle patrols will be held on March 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, and 20. We have filled all of the volunteer vacancies with the program.

After welcoming the first class of volunteers at the park on March 13, Donna will meet with Susan Tatum and Sarah Pittman from Clear

Seas Communications (sometime between 8:30 am - 11:00 am) and then with Pam Baker from Environmental Defense and a small group of individuals (11:00 am - 12:30 pm).

Biological technicians working with the turtle project will begin working on March 22. From March 22-April 2, we will hold training and orientation sessions, and work on completing preparations for the upcoming turtle season. Thank you to all of those people that are helping with these activities.

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